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U.S. Professor Finds New Zealand Hosts Stingy, Stiff-Necked, Cool

An American professor is outspokenly critical in a book — "The Fern and the Tiki" — describing New Zealanders.

David Ausubel, of the University of Illinois, obtained his material during a one-year stay in the country on a Fulbright grant.

He presents a bold and forthright criticism of the New Zealander's character, the welfare state and the country's sacred cow—race relations.

Here are some of his views as reported in Pacific Islands Monthly magazine:

New Zealand mothers approach their child-rearing duties "more coldly impersonal and matter of fact and less spontaneous and relaxed" than Americans and like everything else the New Zealand woman does "she is deadly serious about the business of mothercraft. The rearing of children is not intended to provide enjoyment or emotional satisfaction."

NO FREE-SPENDERS

The New Zealanders "could hardly be accused of being free-spenders."

He says "A disproportionate amount of mental and physical energy, even among well-to-do persons, is spent in planning and executing penny-saving operations and fretting about petty overcharges that scarcely seem worth bothering about."

He says the New Zealanders appear to exhibit a strong under-current of hostility towards foreigners of all countries and he rarely "felt completely welcome and wholeheartedly accepted in New Zealand homes."

Interpersonal relations in the country "seemed strained, tense, touchy and marked by a peculiar lack of graciousness and the effects of a few drinks on New Zealand deportment is more drastic than in England or the U. S.

'OVERGROWN'

As for the school teachers, he describes them as "overgrown schoolboys themselves, their chief trouble being that they were never out in real life before they started teaching."

He points out that the New Zealanders have racial problems, although not bad ones, with the Maoris, but "it is the popular thing to deny it."

He said he had heard people emit tirades of abuse against the Maoris "that made the position of most American segregationists seem moderate by comparison."

Dr. Ausubel is a professor of educational psychology. His book was published last month in Sydney.

Two Awarded Medical Tuition

The Trust Territory for the first time has awarded two medical scholarships leading to M.D. degrees.

Recipients of the scholarships were two Micronesian youths, Aloysius Tuuth of Yap and Tosiwo Nakamura of Palau, according to an announcement by High Commissioner D. H. Nucker.

The pre-medical students will study at the University of the Philippines.

Target Range Isle

Kahoolawe, one of the smallest of the chain of eight Hawaiian islands, is barren and forbidden to visitors. It is used by the military as a target range.

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